



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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March 21, 2014

Testimony in support of H.B No. 5583, An Act Concerning the Payment of Real Property Taxes by Certain Institutions of Higher Learning and Hospital Facilities.

Honorable Co-Chairs, Senator Osten, Representative Rojas, and distinguished members of the Planning and Development Committee;

My name is State Representative Ernest Hewett I am here before you to testify in favor of House Bill 5583, An Act Concerning the Payment of Real Property Taxes by Certain Institutions of Higher Learning and Hospitals Facilities. The purpose of this bill is to change the way tax-exempt colleges and hospitals are treated under the local property tax system.

Under this legislative proposal, colleges and hospitals would be encouraged to discuss with the municipality about the amount of money they would be required to pay. The mentioned entities would in turn submit a partial monetary reimbursement application to the state with an aim of offsetting some costs of these property taxes. This legislation would help in decentralizing this particular tax policy by providing more advantage to towns and cities. The City of New London which I proudly represent in the House of Representatives, is highly supportive of this measure.

I urge the committee to favorably consider this bill making the much needed changes in tax code for colleges and hospitals.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.